

House File 132 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 132

BY STECKMAN

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to school district funding for at-risk pupils
2 and dropout prevention programs and including applicability
3 provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.11, subsection 4, Code 2015, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. *At-risk programs and alternative schools.*

4 ~~a.~~ In order to provide additional funding to school
5 districts for programs serving at-risk pupils and alternative
6 school pupils in secondary schools, a supplementary weighting
7 plan for at-risk pupils is adopted. A supplementary weighting
8 of ~~forty-eight~~ six hundred forty-two ten-thousandths per pupil
9 shall be assigned to the percentage of pupils in a school
10 district enrolled in grades one through six, as reported by
11 the school district on the basic educational data survey for
12 the base year, who are eligible for free and reduced price
13 meals under the federal National School Lunch Act and the
14 federal Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. §1751-1785,
15 multiplied by the budget enrollment in the school district;
16 and a supplementary weighting of ~~one hundred fifty-six~~
17 ~~one hundred thousandths~~ two hundred four ten-thousandths
18 per pupil shall be assigned to pupils included in the budget
19 enrollment of the school district. Amounts received as
20 supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils shall be utilized
21 by a school district to develop or maintain at-risk pupils'
22 programs, which may include alternative school programs, and to
23 establish or maintain approved programs for returning dropouts
24 and dropout prevention under sections 257.38 through 257.41.

25 ~~b.~~ Notwithstanding paragraph "a", a school district which
26 ~~received supplementary weighting for an alternative high school~~
27 ~~program for the school budget year beginning July 1, 1999,~~
28 ~~shall receive an amount of supplementary weighting for the next~~
29 ~~three school budget years as follows:~~

30 ~~(1) For the budget year beginning July 1, 2000, the greater~~
31 ~~of the amount of supplementary weighting determined pursuant to~~
32 ~~paragraph "a", or sixty-five percent of the amount received for~~
33 ~~the budget year beginning July 1, 1999.~~

34 ~~(2) For the budget year beginning July 1, 2001, the greater~~
35 ~~of the amount of supplementary weighting determined pursuant to~~

1 ~~paragraph "a", or forty percent of the amount received for the~~
2 ~~budget year beginning July 1, 1999.~~

3 ~~(3) For the budget year beginning July 1, 2002, and~~
4 ~~succeeding budget years, the amount of supplementary weighting~~
5 ~~determined pursuant to paragraph "a".~~

6 ~~c. If a school district receives an amount pursuant to~~
7 ~~paragraph "b" which exceeds the amount the district would~~
8 ~~otherwise have received pursuant to paragraph "a", the~~
9 ~~department of management shall annually determine the amount~~
10 ~~of the excess that would have been state aid and the amount~~
11 ~~that would have been property tax if the school district had~~
12 ~~generated that amount pursuant to paragraph "a", and shall~~
13 ~~include the amounts in the state aid payments and property tax~~
14 ~~levies of school districts. The department of management shall~~
15 ~~recalculate the supplementary weighting amount received each~~
16 ~~year to reflect the amount of the reduction in funding from one~~
17 ~~budget year to the next pursuant to paragraph "b", subparagraphs~~
18 ~~(1) through (3). It is the intent of the general assembly that~~
19 ~~when weights are recalculated under this subsection, the total~~
20 ~~amounts generated by each weight shall be approximately equal.~~

21 Sec. 2. Section 257.38, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph
22 1, Code 2015, is amended to read as follows:

23 ~~Boards of school districts, individually or jointly with~~
24 ~~boards of other school districts, requesting to use a modified~~
25 ~~supplemental amount amounts received as supplementary weighting~~
26 ~~for at-risk pupils under section 257.11, subsection 4, for~~
27 ~~programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention, shall~~
28 ~~submit, individually or jointly with boards of other school~~
29 ~~districts, comprehensive program plans for the programs~~
30 ~~and budget costs, including annual requests for a modified~~
31 ~~supplemental amount for funding the programs, to the department~~
32 ~~of education as a component of the comprehensive school~~
33 ~~improvement plan submitted to the department pursuant to~~
34 ~~section 256.7, subsection 21. The program plans shall include:~~

35 Sec. 3. Section 257.40, Code 2015, is amended to read as

1 follows:

2 **257.40 Approval of programs for returning dropouts and**
3 **dropout prevention — annual report.**

4 1. a. The board of directors of a school district
5 requesting to use ~~a modified supplemental amount~~ amounts
6 received as supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils under
7 section 257.11, subsection 4, for programs for returning
8 dropouts and dropout prevention shall submit requests,
9 including requests for a modified at-risk supplemental amount,
10 ~~including budget costs, if applicable,~~ to the department not
11 later than December 15 of the year preceding the budget year
12 during which the program will be offered. The department shall
13 review the request and shall prior to January 15 either grant
14 approval for the request or return the request for approval
15 with comments of the department included. An unapproved
16 request for a program may be resubmitted with modifications
17 to the department not later than February 1. Not later than
18 February 15, the department shall notify the department of
19 management ~~and the school budget review committee~~ of the names
20 of the school districts for which programs using ~~a modified~~
21 ~~supplemental amount~~ amounts received as supplementary weighting
22 for at-risk pupils under section 257.11, subsection 4, for
23 funding have been approved and the approved budget of each
24 program listed separately for each school district having
25 an approved request. The department shall also notify the
26 department of management of the names of the school districts
27 for which programs using a modified supplemental amount have
28 been approved pursuant to paragraph "b".

29 b. (1) For budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2016,
30 the department shall not approve a modified supplemental amount
31 for a school district for programs for returning dropouts and
32 dropout prevention unless subparagraph (2) is applicable to the
33 school district.

34 (2) Each school district for which the remainder of the
35 amount received as supplementary weighting under section

1 257.11, subsection 4, for the budget year minus the amount
 2 that would have been received as supplementary weighting by
 3 the school district for the budget year under section 257.11,
 4 subsection 4, Code 2015, is less than the modified supplemental
 5 amount received by the school district for the budget year
 6 beginning July 1, 2015, the department of management shall
 7 establish a modified supplemental amount for the budget year
 8 equal to the difference in the remainder and the modified
 9 supplemental amount received by the school district for the
 10 budget year beginning July 1, 2015.

11 2. Beginning January 15, 2007 2016, the department shall
 12 submit an annual report to the chairpersons and ranking members
 13 of the senate and house education committees that includes the
 14 ways school districts in the previous school year used ~~modified~~
 15 ~~supplemental~~ amounts received as supplementary weighting for
 16 at-risk pupils and amounts received as the result of a modified
 17 supplemental amount approved under subsection 1; identifies,
 18 by grade level, age, and district size, the students in
 19 the dropout and dropout prevention programs for which the
 20 department approves a request; describes school district
 21 progress toward increasing student achievement and attendance
 22 for the students in the programs; and describes how the school
 23 districts are using the revenues from the modified supplemental
 24 amounts and amounts received as supplementary weighting for
 25 at-risk pupils to improve student achievement among minority
 26 subgroups.

27 Sec. 4. Section 257.41, subsection 1, Code 2015, is amended
 28 to read as follows:

29 1. *Budget.* The budget of an approved program for returning
 30 dropouts and dropout prevention for a school district, after
 31 subtracting funds received from other sources for that purpose,
 32 shall be funded annually ~~on a basis of one-fourth or more~~
 33 ~~from the district cost of the school district and up to~~
 34 ~~three-fourths through establishment of a modified supplemental~~
 35 amount using amounts received as supplementary weighting for

1 at-risk pupils under section 257.11, subsection 4, and amounts
 2 received as modified supplemental amounts pursuant to section
 3 257.40. Annually, the department of management shall establish
 4 a modified supplemental amount for each such school district
 5 equal to the difference between the approved budget for the
 6 program for returning dropouts and dropout prevention for that
 7 district and the sum of the amount funded from the district
 8 cost of the school district plus funds received from other
 9 sources.

10 Sec. 5. Section 257.41, subsection 2, paragraph d, Code
 11 2015, is amended to read as follows:

12 d. Up to five percent of the total budgeted amount
 13 received pursuant to subsection 1 that is amounts received
 14 as supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils under section
 15 257.11, subsection 4, or that is received as a modified
 16 supplemental amount pursuant to section 257.40, may be used for
 17 purposes of providing district-wide or building-wide returning
 18 dropout and dropout prevention programming targeted to students
 19 who are not deemed at risk of dropping out.

20 Sec. 6. Section 257.41, subsection 3, Code 2015, is amended
 21 by striking the subsection.

22 Sec. 7. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget
 23 years beginning on or after July 1, 2016.

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
 26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 Current Code section 257.11(4) provides additional funding
 28 for school districts to develop or maintain programs for
 29 at-risk pupils, including alternative schools, through
 30 supplemental weighting. This bill establishes a supplementary
 31 weighting of 0.0642 per pupil for pupils in grades one through
 32 six who are eligible for free and reduced price meals and
 33 establishes a supplementary weighting of 0.0204 for all
 34 pupils in the budget enrollment of the school district. The
 35 bill provides that amounts received as the result of the

1 supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils shall, in addition
2 to developing and maintaining at-risk programs, be utilized by
3 a school district to establish or maintain approved programs
4 for returning dropouts and dropout prevention.

5 Under current law, dropout prevention programs may be
6 funded, in part, using a modified supplemental amount
7 (previously referred to as modified allowable growth). Current
8 Code section 257.41 provides that the budget of an approved
9 dropout prevention program, after subtracting funds received
10 from other sources for that purpose, shall be funded annually
11 on a basis of one-fourth or more from the district cost of the
12 school district and up to three-fourths through establishment
13 of a modified supplemental amount.

14 Except for school districts meeting specified budget
15 criteria relating to dropout prevention programs, the bill
16 removes modified supplemental amounts as a funding source
17 for dropout prevention programs and makes corresponding
18 changes to other provisions of law relating to the approval
19 and administration of dropout prevention programs to reflect
20 a school district's authority to use amounts received as the
21 result of the supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils for
22 dropout prevention programs, as established in the bill.

23 The bill provides that for budget years beginning on or
24 after July 1, 2016, the department of education shall not
25 approve a modified supplemental amount for a school district
26 for programs for returning dropouts and dropout prevention
27 unless certain conditions are met relating to a decrease in
28 funding as compared to funding received by the school district
29 as a modified supplemental amount for programs for returning
30 dropouts and dropout prevention for the budget year beginning
31 July 1, 2015.

32 The bill applies to school budget years beginning on or after
33 July 1, 2016.